

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: UNDP, EAID, SP

SUBJECT: SPAIN INFORMS UNDP IT WILL WAIVE UNDP ASSISTANCE

BEGINNING 1977

NOTE VERBAL FROM UNDP ADMINISTRATOR TO UN PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES ON SUBJECT QUOTED BELOW:

QUOTE THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT REP-
RESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS AND HAS THE HONOUR TO INFORM HIM THAT, AS A RESULT
OF AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES REGARDING SPAIN'S VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION,
HE HAD THE PLEASURE TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE MINISTER
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DATED 31 AUGUST 1974, INFORMING HIM
THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN INTENDS PROGRESSIVELY TO INCREASE
ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME. THE
LETTER READS AS FOLLOWS:

"I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT,
PROMPTED BY ITS CONTINUING DESIRE TO ASSIST, TO THE UTMOST
OF ITS ABILITY, IN THE WORK OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION
DESIGNED TO HELP COUNTRIES SEEKING TO ATTAIN THE LEVELS
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OF DEVELOPMENT DESIRED BY THEIR PEOPLES, HAS DECIDED TO MAKE

A SPECIAL EFFORT ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"(1) BEGINNING WITH THE FORTH-COMING 1977-1981 CYCLE, SPAIN WILL DEFINITELY WAIVE ITS INDICATIVE PLANNING FIGURE AND, CONSEQUENTLY, THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH IT HAS THUS FAR BEEN RECEIVING FROM UNDP.

"(2) REALIZING HOW USEFUL IT HAS BEEN IN SOLVING CERTAIN PROBLEMS RELATING TO ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE TAKE-OFF ACHIEVED IN RECENT YEARS, SPAIN CONTINUES TO BE INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROGRAMME, TO BE NEGOTIATED FOR SPECIFIC CASES, IN WHICH EVENT IT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPENDITURES AND SERVICES INVOLVED.

"(3) SPAIN WILL CONTINUE TO PAY THE CONTRIBUTION PLEDGED FOR 1974 AND TRY TO INCREASE IT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1975.

"(4) THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT, HAVING BEEN A BENEFICIARY UNDER THE PROGRAMME, WILL THUS BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO IT FINANCIALLY, ALTHOUGH IT WISHES TO CONTRIBUTE NOT ONLY IN THAT WAY BUT ALSO IN THE FIELD OF IDEAS AND OF TECHNOLOGY, WITH WHICH MY COUNTRY IS NOW ADEQUATELY ENDOWED AND WHICH MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE TO BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE PROGRAMME. AS AN EXAMPLE, I NEED ONLY MENTION THE PROGRESS MADE BY MY COUNTRY IN SUCH SECTORS AS MINING, TRANSPORT, HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION, HYDROLOGICAL RESEARCH, IRRIGATION, TOURISM, ETC. THAT EXPERIENCE COULD BE OF GREAT USE TO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.

"(5) SPAIN, WHICH IS A COUNTRY AT AN INTERMEDIATE STAGE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BELIEVES THAT ITS ASSISTANCE, WHETHER FINANCIAL OR TECHNICAL, SHOULD GO MAINLY TO THE RELATIVELY LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OR TO THE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN MOST AFFECTED BY THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE RECENT ECONOMIC CRISIS. THIS IDEA STEMS FROM THE CONVICTION THAT THE MAIN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE EFFORT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE COUNTRIES AT THE LOWER END OF THE ECONOMIC SCALE AND WHICH HAVE MORE URGENT AND PRESSING NEEDS AT THE PRESENT TIME.

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"I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO INFORM YOU OF THIS DECISION BY THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH I WOULD ASK YOU TO COMMUNICATE TO THE INFORMATION MEDIA AND WHICH REFLECTS MY COUNTRY'S DETERMINATION TO CONTRIBUTE ON AN INCREASING SCALE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME."

24 SEPTEMBER 1974 UNQUOTE

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